

***2.2 MTC GRANT APPLICATION**

Authorization for Executive Director to Propose a Local Match of Up To \$100,000 in Support of a Grant Application to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (Transportation for Livable Communities) for the proposed Bay Street Planning and Implementation Project

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Executive Summary: Staff proposes to submit a grant application to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) for a proposed Bay Street Planning and Implementation Project. The grant would cover planning and implementation work related to a future Bay Street streetscape project in Irvington. The grant program covers up to \$75,000 per project, and requires a local match, which is defined as “dollars used to match the planning work and not project sponsor staff time or costs.” There are no minimum or maximum requirements for the local match. At this time, staff has not estimated the required local match; however, in order to prepare the grant application under an October 31, 2002 deadline, it seeks authorization for the Executive Director to propose a local match in the grant application of up to \$100,000.

BACKGROUND: The Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) offers a grant program (Transportation for Livable Communities) for planning projects that integrate walking, transit, and bike riding into the community design, and spur the compact development of housing, downtowns and regional activity centers. The program attempts to develop project ideas and community plans that link transportation investments with land-use decisions in support of MTC’s Transportation/Land-Use Connection Policy. A typical outcome of the planning grants is a concept design and implementation plan for capital projects such as streetscapes.

The proposed Bay Street Planning and Implementation Project, which would be partially funded with the MTC Planning Grant, originated with the Irvington Concept Plan process now underway. The draft Concept Plan identifies Bay Street as a pedestrian-oriented, mixed-use street that will connect to the future Irvington BART Station. The draft Plan includes a general development concept for Bay Street, a conceptual streetscape design for Bay Street, and implementation recommendations such as a parking district and business improvement district.

Discussion: The proposed scope of work to be covered by the MTC Planning Grant includes three planning and implementation next steps that are contemplated in the draft Irvington Concept Plan:

- Developing final designs for the Bay Street streetscape project, which could include crosswalk enhancements at Fremont Boulevard to connect Bay Street to Main Street and a future Irvington

BART station, with sufficient specificity to allow the City to go out to bid with the streetscape project.

- Conducting additional planning work for the Bay Street area to identify shared parking facilities and write planned district zoning regulations to encourage retail and housing development in a mixed-use format at a higher density than currently allowed.
- Implementing a parking district and/or a business improvement district as a way to reduce and more efficiently use future parking facilities, and fund parking and street maintenance costs and provide other business district services such as marketing or security.

Staff is in the process of further defining the scope of work to be proposed for the MTC Planning Grant and estimating the consultant and staff costs associated with the work. However, the scope of work would directly support implementation of the Irvington Concept Plan, the Monument Center Redevelopment project, and the Bay Street Streetscape project, which is a capital project included in the 2001-06 Capital Improvement Program with a total budget of \$700,000. An MTC Planning Grant of up to \$75,000 would allow staff to complete more community-based planning work in support of these projects than it otherwise would be able to complete.

The Redevelopment Agency would fund the local match requirement and staff costs associated with the project through its operating budget and appropriations for the Bay Street Streetscape project (CIP #714).

ENCLOSURE: None

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a resolution authorizing the Executive Director to propose a local match of up to \$100,000 in support of a grant application to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission for the proposed Bay Street Planning and Implementation Project.

